

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 124

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to honor William H. Hendley for forty-five years of public service and congratulate him on the celebration of his 58th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley will celebrate his 58th birthday on June 9, 2009, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, William Haydon Hendley, son of John H. Hendley of Trousdale County, Tennessee, and Opal Mae McWhorter of Clinton County, Kentucky, was born in Franklin, Indiana, on June 09, 1951, the eldest of five children - one brother and three sisters; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley began his life living in a log cabin, which was moved to Indiana's Atterbury Fish and Wildlife Park in the late 1990s as a historical site; the cabin was originally located southeast of Franklin, Indiana, on the Greesburg Road, near Shiloh Community Church on the Lyman McClain Farm; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley is the grandson of Willis Aden Hendley and Mary Daisy Lancaster, late of Clay County, Tennessee, and buried at Pleasant Valley Cemetery in Macon County, Tennessee; he is the great-grandson of Francis Marion Hendley and Savannah Josephine Glover of Putnam County, Tennessee, and is the great-great-grandson of Adin Smith Hendley and Elizabeth Jane Gentry, late of Putnam County, Tennessee, and buried at Smellage Cemetery; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley briefly attended elementary school at Franklin City Schools, Southside Masonic School, before moving to Union Township near Providence,

Indiana, where he attended elementary school at Union Township Elementary and High School until its consolidation with the Franklin Community School Corporation in 1963; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley remembers fondly his field trip to the State House in the fourth grade and meeting the late Governor Matthew E. Welsh in May of 1962; later that month, Governor Welsh returned Tennessee's Civil War battle flags at a ceremony at the Tennessee State Capitol, in which Tennessee Governor Buford Ellington accepted their return as a gesture of good will; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley also remembers the school principal standing at the door of his sixth grade geography class while his teacher, Mr. Jasper Church, announced that President John F. Kennedy had been shot; Mr. Hendley has always tried to honor the spirit of President Kennedy's inaugural words, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Boy Scouts of America Troop 269, at the First Baptist Church of Franklin, Indiana, from 1964 to 1966, Mr. Hendley earned several merit badges, advanced several levels in rank, attended many District Camporees, and participated in the County and State Scout Fairs, with his highest honors being the Troop Bugler and Quartermaster; Mr. Hendley also recalls the troop being mobilized for the war on hunger during President Lyndon B. Johnson's administration; and

WHEREAS, after earning the Greenhand level as a member of the Future Farmers of America during his freshman year of high school, William H. Hendley earned the level of Chapter Farmer for his swine-raising project during his sophomore year, just before moving back to Franklin, Indiana, on October 31, 1967; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley excelled in civics and represented three states in a mock congress, had the best display of President Nixon's Cabinet, and, after sending a letter to the late General Moshe Dayan, received a pound of sand taken from Mt. Sinai after the Six-Day War in 1967 from the Israeli Ministry of Defense; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley graduated from Franklin Community High School in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley corresponded with his first Tennessee governor, Governor Buford Ellington, during his second term as governor and received his first Tennessee Blue Book from Governor Winfield Dunn on October 31, 1974; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley worked at Morgans Canning Factory in 1968; the kitchen at Franklin United Methodist Retirement Community from 1969 to 1970; Arvin Industries of Franklin from 1970 to 1978; Chevrolet Indianapolis from 1978 to 1979; the State of Indiana from 1979 to 1981, where, serving with distinction, he assisted a security officer in saving a patient's life at Central State Hospital and was highly rated on investigative efforts on welfare records actions in the Central Files Section at the Department of Public Welfare's state headquarters; Mr. Hendley joined Eli Lilly and Company in March of 1981; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley joined the United States Air Force in 1973, graduating from the U.S. Air Force Security Police Academy at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas; on his first leave off the base, he visited the Alamo to pay his respects to the venerated shrine Davy Crockett gave his life defending; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley served under General John "John Wayne" C. Meyer, Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command (SAC) at SAC Headquarters, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska; he was attached to the 3902nd Security Police Squadron and Air Base Wing Headquarters, 14th Air Division, the 15th Air Force; and

WHEREAS, serving with distinction, Mr. Hendley was assigned special duty, including lone sentry on General Meyer's personal jet, special backup sentry for Air Force Two for then Vice President Gerald Ford, and rotation to entry control Airborne battle staffs assigned to KC-135s under "Operation Looking Glass," as well as other entry points on the flight line and main gates and Temporary Duty Assignment Law Enforcement, which included patrol and traffic duty; and

WHEREAS, despite his many responsibilities, he did find time to serve as the official "Bugler"; Mr. Hendley was honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant, and returned home from his leave of absence to Arvin Industries after the Vietnam Conflict; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley married the former Julie Joann Tappan of Anderson, Indiana, on June 17, 1972, at Meadowbrook Baptist Church in Anderson, and they established themselves on the south side of Indianapolis, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley then enrolled at Indiana Vocational Technical College as a part-time student; he majored in a variety of subjects over the years, including Business Law from 1972 to 1973, Apprenticeship Math for Chevrolet in 1979, Paralegal in 1990, and also completed a correspondence course in Genealogy from Brigham Young University in 1974 and 1975; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley founded the Society of Southern Heritage while in high school and formed a committee of co-workers at Arvin Industries to support the donation of a set of the Journal of the Confederate Congress to Franklin College of Indiana in Franklin, Indiana, in support of the late Governor Roger D. Branigin's 1971-72 history directive; Governor Branigin signed the Act for Indiana's state memorial at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley was appointed Indiana Chairman for the Tennessee Monument Commission, Inc. of Tennessee on September 15, 1975, by National Chairman Donald A. Ramsay of Nashville; thanks to the participation of former Indiana Governor Otis R. Bowen, M.D. and 29 other governors whose states' troops had fought in the Battle of Gettysburg, a memorial was dedicated by former Lieutenant Governor John S. Wilder on July 3, 1982, thereby making Tennessee the last Southern state and Indiana, whose memorial was dedicated in 1971 by Governor Edgar D. Whitcomb, the last Northern state to erect state memorials up to that time; and

WHEREAS, former Indiana State Representative, the late Jack N. Smitherman of Mooresville, Indiana, voted for Indiana's Memorial, along with his friend and former Governor of Tennessee, the late Ray Blanton; their efforts, in combination with the efforts of other Mooresville citizens, led the Hoosier Division to be recognized by the Indiana State Senate on April 5, 1979, by Senate Resolution 14, which was roundly supported by former Indiana State Senator and longest serving president pro-tem Robert D. Garton; and

WHEREAS, on Memorial Day of 1975, William H. Hendley founded the The Hendley Family Association, Inc. of Tennessee, the culmination of five years of research locating the "lost families" that migrated from Tennessee to Indiana and other parts of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley served as the Association's genealogist from 1976 to 1980, and was then elected the fourth national president, serving from 1981 to the present; Mr. Hendley continues to build and further organize the branches of the family, honoring the heritage of its members past and present, and supporting the preservation of the founding pioneer family's grave site at Smellage Cemetery in Putnam County by the placement of an official historical marker that was dedicated on May 25, 2008, with the next day proclaimed "The Great Hendley Family of Tennessee Day" by the Honorable Kim Blaylock, County Executive of Putnam County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley has been ever mindful of the Association's official motto: "It is appropriate today that we pause to remember who we are, where we came from, and what we have been taught," taken from the inaugural address of former Governor Ned Ray McWherter; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, the Association was officially recognized as the "Great Hendley Family of Tennessee" by Senate Joint Resolution 128, which was sponsored in the Senate by the late Tommy Burks, and for twenty-five years of service by House Joint Resolution 612 in 2002, which was sponsored by former State Representative Jere L. Hargrove; and

WHEREAS, as an historical reenactor, William H. Hendley and his wife have appeared as a Civil War couple at the 150th annual meeting of the Indianapolis Baptist Association on January 13, 1976, and Mr. Hendley, a member of the Confederate High Command International, Inc. of Tennessee, has appeared most notably as a member of Company C, 7th Tennessee Regiment, Archer's Brigade, Heath's Division, Army of Northern Virginia at the 113th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, held July 4, 1976, during the United States Bicentennial, broadcast nationwide and narrated by CBS anchor Dan Rather, and as Colonel Eli Lilly, the Hoosier Civil War hero and drug manufacturer, at "Victorian Days," sponsored by Crown Hill Cemetery of Indianapolis in 1996 and in 1997; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley founded and served as facilitator of the Anita, Indiana Historical Marker Committee, which launched a legislative effort with news media support to enact a House Concurrent Resolution, led by State Representative Woody Burton of Greenwood, Indiana, directing the Indiana State Highway Department to leave the town of Anita, Indiana, on the official state highway map for an indefinite time; an historical marker was erected and dedicated on Mother's Day of 1991, in tribute to Mrs. Hadie A. Green, who had written about the community in *The Franklin Evening Star* newspaper and who had become known as the town's honorary mayor; while the marker was soon stolen, it was later recovered and is now in the custody of the Johnson County Historical Museum in Franklin, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley facilitated, organized, and researched the achievements, and developed the official diploma and site for the 29th reunion of the Union High School Class of 1970; held at the old school near the town of Providence, Indiana, on July 21, 1990, with nineteen students who began together in 1958 and finished together at Franklin Community High School; and

WHEREAS, Indiana's House Resolution 12 recognized the Union High School Class of 1970, and memorialized the last Township Advisory Board with school board powers, and former bus driver and township trustee, the late Edgar W. "Dutch" Utterback, brother of Earl M. Utterback and candidate for Indiana Lieutenant Governor in 1960; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley founded and served as chairman of the Indiana-Tennessee Civil War Memorial Commission; in accordance with Indiana House Concurrent Resolution 67 of 1992, the "Heroic Hoosier Civil War Citizen's Memorial" honors U.S. Congressman Joseph H. DeFrees of Goshen, Indiana, who was born in Sparta, Tennessee, and led the fight for Tennessee's readmission to the Union in 1866; Colonel Eli Lilly of Indianapolis, Indiana, founder of Eli Lilly and Company, who formed an artillery unit that served only in Tennessee; and Private Oliver P. Rood, Medal of Honor recipient of Sullivan, Indiana, who is buried with Tennessee Confederate soldiers at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, the memorial has a table top in the shape of Tennessee, representing the connection of these three Heroic Hoosiers to the State of Tennessee, and a ceremonial Tennessee State flag stands permanently next to the memorial; the Commission observed

Tennessee's Bicentennial by the erection and dedication of historical street signage along Capitol Avenue, from Ohio Street south to South Street on June 1, 1996, with signage noting that Capitol Avenue had been originally "Tennessee Street" from 1821 to 1894; and

WHEREAS, speakers at the dedication were U.S. Congressman Andy Jacobs, Jr., representing Vice President Albert Gore, Jr.; State Representative David N. Frizzell, representing the State of Indiana; and City-County Councilor Beulah A. Coughenour, representing the City of Indianapolis; a letter was read from Governor Don Sundquist; the commission was also responsible for bringing to the state's attention the missing name of Private Oliver P. Rood from the first "Medal of Honor" bronze plate in the Rotunda of the Indiana State House and at the Indiana World War Memorial in 1993; Private Rood was the only Hoosier to earn the Medal of Honor at the Battle of Gettysburg, and was a member of the 14th Indiana Infantry from Terre Haute, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley co-founded and served as an advisor to the Peoga, Indiana Centennial Commission, Inc, and served as legislative chairman for House Concurrent Resolution 5, led by State Representative Ralph M. Foley of Martinsville, Indiana, and adopted in 1993; sweatshirts and cookbooks (the "Hobo Dinner" is Mr. Hendley's entry) helped raise enough money to erect a granite slab upright memorial, placed on the Johnson-Brown County lines on the property of Mt. Olivet Church in 1999; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley served twice as Commander of Eli Lilly American Legion Post #374, 1994-95 and 1998-99; he served in the offices of 2nd Vice Commander 1993-94, Service Officer 1995-96, 1st Vice Commander 1996-97, and Adjutant 1997-98; he was chairman of the Americanism Committee, giving the Indiana Department of the American Legion's Government Test every November to local high school juniors and seniors, and inviting their local House of Representatives member to participate in the presentation ceremony from 1990-99; and

WHEREAS, he has also served as Chairman of the Eli Lilly Post's 50th Anniversary Commemoration in March 1996, Chairman of the Stringer Award for Good Citizenship Committee 1996, Chairman for the recovery and rededication of the Eli Lilly and Company historical marker, which was placed close to the original site of the Pearl Street manufacturing

facility, now enclosed on Meridian Street, on Columbus Day, 1996; this rededication was performed in collaboration with the City of Indianapolis Historical Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Mr. Hendley established a traditional flag presentation at local schools on U.S. Constitution Day and the Commander's Citation in 1994, and he served as a permanent member of the Post Color Guard and Burial Team; Commander Hendley's most memorable event was dubbing Mr. John Morton-Finney, last of the Buffalo Soldiers, a Kentucky Colonel at an 11th District meeting, after recruiting him back into the Legion; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley served as 11th District Boys State Enrollment Chairman in 1995, 11th District Adjutant (Editor of the District Newsletter) from 1995 to 1997; 11th District Delegate to the 74th National Convention, held in Indianapolis in 1995, was a liaison for the 11th District to the Indiana Department and National in commemorating the 75th anniversary of the American Legion in 1996, and represented the Indiana Department of the American Legion in the IPALCO 500 Festival Parade on Memorial Day in 1999, the gathering of flags around the "Medal of Honor" floats; and

WHEREAS, former Indiana State Representative Irene M. Heffley led the Eli Lilly American Legion Post's 50th Anniversary with House Resolution 7 in 1996, and the American Legion's 75th Anniversary with House Resolution 3 in 1996; Mr. Hendley coordinated the presentation of House Concurrent Resolution 45 (POW/MIA) in 1996 to the National Executive Committee at the American Legion's national headquarters in Indianapolis that same year; and

WHEREAS, in all of his endeavors Mr. Hendley strove to carry forward the ideals incorporated in the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion: "For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: to uphold and defend the Constitution of The United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the great wars; to inculcate sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness"; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley led a resolution of endorsement of The Victims of Crime Constitutional Amendment, from the Post level, to the 11th District, then to the Indiana Department of the American Legion's Convention in Indianapolis in July of 1996, and led a delegation to three Legion Districts to promote the Amendment (VOCCA) shortly before the general election, which was held on November 5, 1996; and

WHEREAS, for his efforts, Indiana Attorney General Pam Carter appointed him, along with other distinguished Hoosiers, to the Victims of Crime Constitutional Amendment Campaign Panel; Mr. Hendley worked to see the Amendment pass by an 89% margin of victory, the widest of any amendment passed in the State of Indiana; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendley was elected a member of the Board of Directors of the Central Indiana Chapter, Parents of Murdered Children, Inc. (POMC), serving from 1997 to 2000; he participated in several of the chapter's projects and memorial services, including sounding the bugle call "Taps" as a representative of Eli Lilly American Legion Post 374, as commander in 1995, and he also represented POMC at the National Crime Victims Rights Week Memorial Service in April of 1996; and

WHEREAS, as a representative of the American Legion, Department of Indiana, William H. Hendley co-founded the Indiana Victims of Violence Memorial Commission, Inc.; elected a member of the Board of Directors, Mr. Hendley chaired the legislative committee, drafting House Resolution 29 in 1996, led by State Representative David N. Frizzell of Indianapolis, to place a memorial in the State House Rotunda; and

WHEREAS, elected Vice President of the Commission in 1997, Mr. Hendley assisted other commission committees in fund raising, coordinating administrative functions, and recruiting craftsmen for the commission. Mr. Hendley's aunt, Mrs. Bonnie Marie McWhorter-Cunningham, is pictured on the memorial, which was placed on April 11, 2003, near the Gettysburg Address bronze plate, which is attached to the wall of the northeast corner of the State House Rotunda; a sentence in the Resolution reads, "That those honored dead shall not have died in vain," but will be remembered by their loved ones and be a reminder to all Hoosier citizens of the enormous human loss associated with violent crime; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley has been the recipient of many awards and honors from many states, as well as the federal government, for his public service and community involvement: Mr. Hendley has received from former Indiana Governor Otis R. Bowen, M.D. a commendation that reads, "It is through his willing efforts that the citizens of Indiana have been able to reiterate the memory of those brave individuals who fought at The Battle of Gettysburg," issued February 26, 1979; commissioned a Distinguished Hoosier by former Indiana Governor Evan Bayh on July 4, 1993, and by the late Indiana Governor Frank O'Bannon on August 3, 2002; presented Honorary Lieutenant Governor Citations from former Indiana Lieutenant Governor Robert D. Orr on November 14, 1979, and Lieutenant Governor Joseph E. Kernan on June 17, 2002; commendation from the 97th Tennessee General Assembly, Senate Joint Resolution 10 that reads, "To honor and commend Mr. William H. Hendley for his meritorious service to Tennessee," signed by Governor Ned McWherter on February 10, 1992, and sponsored by the late State Senator Tommy Burks, who sponsored the Victims of Crime Constitutional Amendment in Tennessee; issued a Citation of Appreciation by Mr. John W. Gillis, Director of the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime, as one of eighty-one individuals nationwide nominated for the National Crime Victims Service Award in 2002; awarded a Certificate of Recognition by Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld that reads, "In recognition of your service during the period of the Cold War (2 September 1945 – 26 December 1991) in promoting peace and stability for this nation, the people of this nation are forever grateful"; a commendation plaque from Eli Lilly American Legion Post 374 that reads, "In sincere appreciation for his unequalled service," presented in March of 1996; honored by "Veteran's Day" Proclamation of late former Franklin, Indiana, City Mayor Herschel E. Cook on November 11, 1999; honored by the 113th Indiana General Assembly by House Resolution 24 on March 17, 2003; the City of Indianapolis, City-County Council Special Resolution 32 on June 2, 2003; and other awards and honors too numerous to mention; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley was a member of many estimable organizations, including United Carpenters and Joiners of America Local 2993 AFL-CIO, Arvin Franklin Plant 1970-1978 (UAW 'in-plant' organizing committee 1977); United Auto Workers Union Local 23,

Chevrolet Indianapolis Plant 1978-1981; co-worker of former Indiana State Representative Mae Dickinson; Civil War groups; Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Indiana Department Junior Vice Commander 1973-74; Indianapolis Civil War Round Table; Confederate Memorial Literary Society; Disability Awareness Month Volunteer for the Indiana Governor's Planning Council for People with Disabilities; and emergency room volunteer at St. Francis Hospital 1987-1990; the Air Force Security Police Association (founded 1986 – Charter and Life Member), supporter of the Defender Memorial Statue at the United States Air Force National Museum in Dayton, Ohio, with name on a foundation brick surrounding the statue; and the United States Security Forces Museum Foundation Life Member, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas; and

WHEREAS, William H. Hendley is proud and honored to say that, "No matter where I worked, no matter where I volunteered, no matter what organizations I belonged to over the years, and no matter where I traveled, I always honored my Tennessee heritage," and he has always been able to find the friendship of Tennesseans in every area of his everyday life; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mr. William H. "Bill" Hendley on the celebration of his fifty-eighth birthday, commend him for his life of dedicated public service, and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.